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CORONA file

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13 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Possible Contribution of 1107 Photography
to Provide Intelligence on Reported Sino-
Soviet Border Skirmish

25X1A 1. [] reported to this office that, acting on
25X1A an Associated Press relay of a radio Peking report of a Soviet
penetration of China in northwest Sinkiang Province, he had taken
action to find whether 1107 might have photographed the area.
[] defined the area in question as being in the vicinity of the
Dzungarian Gate north of the Tien Shan range. According to the
Associated Press relay, several hundred Soviets covered by two
helicopters and accompanied by ten tanks and armored cars had
penetrated approximately a mile into the Sinkiang Province.

25X1A 2. [] verified that there had been no coverage
of the Dzungarian Gate area by 1107-1. 1107-2 had attempted to
photograph this area on one pass on 9 August. With respect to the
remainder of the border area, seven other passes had attempted
photography.

3. Following consultation with [] it was agreed
that a single complete copy of the film would be picked up at Eastman
Kodak at 1800 hours this date. The film would be delivered to NPIC
at approximately 2200 hours and PIs would start to work on the Sino-
Soviet border photography upon receipt. It was agreed that this procedure
would stand, without any need for further consultation, unless the NIC
special meeting, in session during the latter part of the morning, should
suggest that intelligence available to it would not be enhanced by photography.

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